X

PROGRESS REPORT

OF

FOREST ADMINISTRATION

IN THE

HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS

FOR

1877-78,

By A. T. DRYSDALE, Esq.,

DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,

WITH REMARKS BY THE RESIDENT AND THE COMMISSIONER

AND

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

1879.

CALCUTTA:
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No. 504F., dated Simla, the 7th June 1879.

From—A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce,

To—The Resident at Hyderabad.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of letter No. 29B., dated the 14th October last, from your Secretary for Berar, giving cover to the Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for 1877-78, with a memorandum by the Commissioner, and your remarks thereon.

2. The Commissioner raises several questions regarding the classification of forests and general Forest administration in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. These questions it will be more convenient to discuss separately, and this the Government of India will be prepared to do when an expression of your own and the Commissioner's views have been obtained regarding the Draft Forest Rules which were communicated to you with the letter from this office, No. 850F., dated the 28th August 1878, and the report by the Inspector General of Forests containing suggestions regarding Forest administration in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts sent to you on the 23rd January last, with letter No. 73F. Meanwhile, in the remarks which I am now directed to communicate, the existing classification will be adhered to.

3. If the figures recorded in the report are correctly understood, the total area of forest land at the disposal of Government in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts consists of three classes—State Forests, Reserved District Forests, and Unreserved District Forests—and the area of these three classes stands approximately as follows :—

I.—State Forests—

	Square miles.
Bairagarh	426
Gugamal	300
Garu Matergaon	72½
Ghatbori	87
Penganga	18
Kelapur	50
Small tracts	1
Kinwat	83½
Total ...	988

These forests, it is understood, have been demarcated under Rule 8 of the Forest Rules for the Hyderabad Assigned Districts of October 1871. It is understood that, except the Kelapur Reserve in the Wun District, the boundaries of which have not yet been finally settled, all these forests are demarcated on the ground by cleared lines and boundary-marks. This is satisfactory; and I am directed to request that it may be stated in each annual report whether the boundary lines of these forests are maintained in good order, and whether anything requires to be done to improve them.

4.

II.—Reserved District Forests—

		Square miles.
Ellichpur District	... ...	7
Amraoti „	... ...	74
Akola „	... ...	46
Buldana „	... ...	24
Wun „	... ...	219
Bassim „	... ...	43
	Total ...	413

These forests, it is understood, were declared to be Reserved District Forests under Rule 37 of the Rules of 1871. As explained by the Deputy Conservator in paragraph 16 of his report, they differ from the other District Forests in this, that the land is not allowed to be alienated or broken up for cultivation, which is in accordance with the rule quoted.

5.

III.—Unreserved District Forests—

		Square miles.
Ellichpur District	... ...	800
Akola „	... ...	269
Buldana „	... ...	457
Wun „	... ...	970
Bassim „	... ...	262
	Total ...	2,758

This area is supposed to comprise all lands to which the Forest Rules apply, and which have not been included in Reserved District Forests or in State (or Communal) Forests, as provided in Rule 35. It has hitherto been understood that land included in the Unreserved District Forests is available for the extension of cultivation; but if, as would appear from paragraph 7 of the Commissioner's memorandum, cultivated lands, while allowed to lie fallow, are classed under Unreserved District Forests, this is a mistake which is not authorised by the rules, and which should be rectified by the local authorities.

6. District Forests, whether reserved or unreserved, are not specially demarcated, and they are in charge of Deputy Commissioners, while State Forests are demarcated and are in charge of the special Forest Officers. The Melghat Unreserved District Forests form an exception to this rule, as they are in charge of the Forest Officers. This exception seems to be provided for by Rule 35.

7. The above is understood to be the present classification and general administration of the forest land under the control of Government in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. If the facts of the case are not correctly understood, they should be clearly stated for the information of the Government of India. After the existing Forest Rules have been modified as contemplated, it will then be necessary to revise the present classification of the forests, so as to bring it in accordance with the provisions of the new Rules.

8. The general policy by which, as understood by the Government of India, the management of the Government forests in Berar has hitherto been guided, has been to protect and improve the State forests, while the District Forests are available for the extension of cultivation, and to yield pasture, grass, wood, and timber for the requirements of the people. As laid down in Rule 41, it rests with the Resident to regulate the working of the District Forests by such rules as he may from time to time sanction. If the Commissioner, as would appear from his memorandum, considers that the present system of working the District Forests is unsatisfactory, he should submit to the Resident the needful proposals for altering it.

9. As a necessary consequence of this general policy, the receipts from the State Forests are insignificant, while those from the District Forests constitute the chief Forest revenue. The figures are stated by Mr. Drysdale to have been as follows:—

1877-78.	Receipts.	Charges.
	Rs.	Rs.
State Forests	22,274	43,787
Reserved District Forests ...	81,243	7,665
Unreserved District Forests ...	1,75,714	39,378
Total ...	2,79,231	90,830

10. The yield in material of the State Forests is reported in paragraph 17 of Mr. Drysdale's report, and the yield in material of the Melghat Unreserved Forests is stated in paragraph 76. The Melghat Unreserved Forests yielded a revenue of Rs. 1,04,843 during the year, or more than one-half of the total revenue of the District Forests. If in future the yield in material of the other District Forests can be ascertained and recorded in the report, as suggested in paragraph 10 of the Commissioner's memorandum, this will be an advantage. The Government of India has not hitherto insisted upon it, as it was thought that the collection of the data would unduly increase the work of Deputy Commissioners, and that, after all, the results might not be trustworthy.

11. The arrangement of the report as regards the State Forests is in accordance with the orders of the Government of India, and should be maintained; but it rests with you, in communication with the Commissioner, to prescribe any form for the annual report on the District Forests that may appear most suitable.

12. Fire-protection in the State Forests has not been as successful as in the previous year, and it is much to be regretted that the greater part of the Kinwat and Ghatbori Reserves was burnt. From Return No. 47 it is understood that 554,577 acres were protected to 30th June 1878, at a cost of Rs. 2,884, the total cost of fire conservancy from the commencement having been Rs. 10,311. The small outlay upon this important work in Berar is a marked and satisfactory feature in Mr. Drysdale's administration.

13. The area of plantations has been reduced from 2,528 to 1,449 acres, all imperfectly stocked areas having been excluded. It is understood that the figures now reported include only such plots as are fairly stocked. The outlay

on plantations has been Rs. 37,808, which amounts to Rs. 26 per acre on the reduced area. It is hoped that this branch of the work will in future be more successful.

14. The Governor General in Council has read with great satisfaction the Commissioner's remarks in paragraph 20 of his memorandum on the excellent relations maintained by Forest Officers of all classes in the Melghat Hills with the people.

15. Doubtless, the form and arrangement of the report leaves much to be desired, but it gives evidence of steady and healthy progress made during the year.

Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.—No. 116, R., A. & C.—12-6-79.—350.

No. 778 of 1878-79.

Remarks by Resident on Forest Report for 1877-78.

This Report was received in this office on 11th September, and issued from the Press on 2nd instant.

The District Forest Reports received with it have not been printed, according to usual practice, but the Commissioner's review notices the points which have chiefly attracted attention in them, as also in the Report of the Deputy Conservator. This review, though confessedly unsatisfactory for reasons explained, examines in a searching manner the several reports, and abounds with useful criticisms. It exposes ignorance of, and confusion in, Forest Rules which had not previously been brought to notice; and makes proposals (see para. 18) by way of correction which have the Resident's hearty approval. And while rendering deserved credit to the Deputy Conservator and his subordinates in the Forest Department for their labours during the year, it opens with some very forcible remarks on the arrangement of the present Forest Report and the statements appended to it. The statements are prescribed by Government, whose orders were conveyed in this office correspondence referred to in para. 2. If these orders clashed with the Forest Rules, which have also received the sanction of Government, the Deputy Conservator, it is observed, should have brought the fact to notice. The observation is no doubt just, and the Deputy Conservator will be asked to report on the subject and to show exactly how far he conceives himself to be restricted by departmental orders from following in the arrangement of his annual report the suggestions of the Commissioner. The three sections into which the present Report is divided, as mentioned at the outset of Mr. Jones' Memorandum, do not correspond precisely with the division of subjects in the report for the preceding year; but the heading "Unreserved or District Forests" to which the Commissioner objects on the ground that it "seems to imply that there are no district forests except those which are unreserved" is not confined to Berar alone, and Mr. Drysdale is not responsible for it. The "practical inconvenience," therefore, which Mr. Jones describes in his 3rd, 4th, and 5th paras. must be met as proposed in the latter part of para. 3, by a part of the Annual Forest Report being devoted to an exposition of district details which will admit of "an intelligent and comprehensive review of forest administration of each district." And, as noted in para. 6, Deputy Commissioners should submit their annual Forest Reports through the Deputy Conservator to the Commissioner.

2. The Resident concurs in the remarks in para. 7. The term forest" could never have been intended to apply to stray Survey numbers.

3. He sanctions the limitation which the Commissioner thinks should be put on Rule V. of the rules issued on 1st April 1874, as expressed in the latter part of para. 8.

4. The observations made in para. 10 are just. It is extraordinary that a Forest Report should know nothing as to the yield of the sources which contribute more than 19-20ths of the receipts exhibited in it. For this is what the statement (para. 18 of Report)—"the yield of the district reserves and of the unreserved forests is not known,—" amounts to.

The remarks made on para. 27 of the Deputy Conservator's Report are concurred in by the Resident, who, equally with the Commissioner, is ignorant as to the "jealousies" and "disastrous effects" referred to.

The incompleteness of the table which the Commissioner characterizes as "the most useful in the whole report" should be explained ;* as also the large entries under the head "Timber and other produce removed by Government Agency."

5. To follow Mr. Jones' remarks on the reports of the Deputy Commissioners would be mere repetition. They show very clearly the necessity for clear revised forest rules and clearer notions on the part of district officers as to how rules are to be understood and observed. Of only one district (Wun) is it recorded that the system of forest administration is "excellent" and "is thoroughly understood by the Deputy Commissioner."

Altogether it appears that District forest administration requires much closer attention than it has hitherto received.

6. Turning to the report of the Deputy Conservator, on whom the foregoing remarks are intended to cast no reflections, the Resident finds much room for favorable comment in the account of how forests have been protected from fire and of the work carried on in plantations ; in the progress made in the construction of the Ellichpur-Pili road, which must be pushed on as fast as possible.

There are other points of interest which have not failed to catch his eye, but which it would lengthen these remarks unnecessarily to notice.

7. The main points which attract attention are :—

(1.) That the State Reserves covering an area of 1,402 square miles are at present "enjoying almost complete rest," little produce being extracted from them except grass and bamboos. These forests contribute Rs. 22,273-11-10 of the total revenue, and are debited with Rs. 43,786-13-8 of the expenditure shown under "Financial results" in para. 19.

(2.) That District Reserves (under charge of Deputy Commissioners), the area of which is not shown separately, but which from Form No. XLV. would appear to be 497½ square miles, yielded Rs. 81,243-3-1, against an expenditure of Rs. 7,665-1-11.

(3.) That unreserved forests (also under the charge of Deputy Commissioners), which are said to cover an area of about 2,758 square miles "which includes all Government waste lands outside State and District Reserves, and which, for the most part, now supply all the wants of the province in the matter of forest produce" yielded Rs. 1,75,713-15-5, against an expenditure of Rs. 39,378-6-1.

(4.) "The net result of the year's transactions amounts to Rs. 1,88,400-8-8. The figures for 1876-77 were Rs. 1,55,855-7-11. Under expenditure there is little difference in the figures of the two years.

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* The total of receipts in this table (para. 78) corresponds with the aggregate revenue from unreserved forests shown in para. 19. And Form No. XLV., para. 3 of the Appendix, omits also to show any unreserved forests in Amraoti.

8. The Inspection Report expected from Dr. Brandis referred to by the Deputy Conservator (para. 21) is not yet before the Resident, and orders on the proposals referred to in para. 21 of the Commissioner's Memorandum have been delayed pending its receipt.

9. The proposals alluded to in para. 21 of the Deputy Conservator's report were disposed of last August by the issue of the necessary orders for the demarcation of the boundaries agreed on by an officer from the Central Provinces conjointly with one from Berar.

10. The delay in the demarcation of the Kelapur Reserve (para. 55) is to be regretted, and will, it is hoped, soon be terminated.

11. Lastly, the Resident notices with satisfaction the praise accorded to his subordinates by the Deputy Conservator at the close of his Report; and trusts that the omission of any notice of the health of the Department during the year is a good sign.

The thanks of the Administration are again due to Mr. Drysdale for his efficient services.

(By Order,)

G. H. TREVOR,

Secretary for Berar to the Resident.

HYDERABAD RESIDENCY,
The 12th October 1878.

No. 3730 of 1878.

Memo. on the Reports submitted by the Deputy Commissioners and by Deputy Conservator on Forest Administration in 1877-78.

The Deputy Conservator's report is divided into three sections, as follows:—

SECTION I.—Summary of administration during the year.

SECTION II.—Reserved forests.

SECTION III.—Unreserved or district forests.

This division of the subject seems open to the objection that it disregards the classification of forests laid down in the Forest Rules and Supplementary Rules. These rules are, as they now stand, illogical and confused; but as long as they exist and have the force of law, Forest and District Officers may be reasonably expected to base their nomenclature upon them, and therefore to treat separately of—

(*a*.)—Demarcated State forests usually managed by Forest Officers;

(*b*.)—Reserved district forests usually managed by Deputy Commissioners;

(*c*.)—Unreserved district forests usually managed by Deputy Commissioners;

or at all events not to group together in an administrative review (*a*) and (*b*), two classes controlled by different agencies.

2. The Deputy Conservator may, perhaps, excuse his treatment of the subject by reference to the orders and letters quoted in the margin; but if so, I would observe that he should have made application to have the forest rules altered to suit the instructions issued. Bad as they are, these forest rules are all that I and officers under me have to guide us, and unless they are maintained as a secure and reliable guide, confusion worse than any that now exists must result. Precision in nomenclature is at the very bottom of efficient forest administration.

Second Assistant Resident's letter, No. 1014, of 9th December 1876.
Second Assistant Resident's letter, No. 1015, of 31st December 1876.

3. The practical inconvenience of treating State demarcated forests managed by Forest Officers, and district reserves managed by District Officers together is obvious. *The officers who manage should report*; but in Mr. Drysdale's report District Officers, under whose control by far the greater part of our forest land is, and through whose agency by far the greater part of the total forest revenue is collected, scarcely speak at all, and I, who might, perhaps, exercise some useful control over their proceedings, am unable to criticise figures and statements which embrace the transactions and proceedings of forest officers as well. If any exigency connected with the administration of the Forest Department requires that district reserves be lumped up with demarcated State forests by all means let them be so; but common sense and practical utility seem to require that their story should be *separately told as well*, and that in the Deputy Conservator's report some part should be devoted to noticing* the reports of District Officers on: (1) Reserved, (2) Unreserved forests, and that some statements showing the results achieved in such forests should be prepared.

* Section III. of the Deputy Conservator's report states what the rules regarding unreserved forests are, not how they were worked. Moreover, the greater portion of it is devoted to the Melghat unreserved forests which, by special arrangements, are under the Forest Department.

4. A glance at the statements which accompany Mr. Drysdale's report will show how necessary it is that such separate presentation of results should be attempted. Thus:—

The entries in No. 45 show no kind of correspondence with those rendered by Deputy Commissioners in their revenue reports.—Statement A.

No. 48 fails to distinguish between offences committed in the three classes of forests, although it is most important that these prosecutions should be thus discriminated.

The rest of the statements, including those which exhibit produce income from each source, and expenditure, are equally defective.

5. It is out of the question for me to attempt to review in a satisfactory manner reports and statements drawn up on this principle. I can throw in an explanatory remark here and there about some petty matter which may seem to require notice, but anything like an intelligent and comprehensive review of forest administration of *each district*, and of the work of district officers generally, is impossible.

We have rules, and the Forest Department prescribes statements and a form of report, but the two things seem to have no connection with one another. It might at least have been expected that when by rules the greater part of forest management devolves on Deputy Commissioners, provision would have been made in the statement and report for criticising their work. Suppose, for instance, I wish to know how far Deputy Commissioners acted on the permission given in Rule I. of the rules issued on 1st April 1874, how far patels and patwaries were employed, Rule VII., and what payments were made to them, I find no information. As far as appears from the statements and report, any other set of rules might have been in existence, or there might have been none at all.

6. It is an anomaly that Deputy Commissioners should submit their reports to the Deputy Conservator, instead of addressing them to me* and sending them through him, so that he may have an opportunity of perusing them. Under the rules all district forests, reserved and unreserved, are to be managed by revenue officers, and their reports should therefore be addressed to me, and should be accompanied by such statements as may afford some kind of information about the *working of the rules*. The rules are imperfect, but they are all we have; yet no one seems to pay them any regard, or to care to show that all that is done is based upon them.

*Two, I see, are addressed to me.

7. The chief difficulty in Berar forest administration arises from the definition given to the word "forest." I am not now reviving the hackneyed objection that land which bears only grass should not be called forest. This is an objection which I do not sympathise with. What I do object to is to calling fields, which practically form part of the cultivated area of a district, forest. A field which may have been cultivated for twenty years, and will be cultivated for twenty more, and which may be surrounded on all sides by cultivated land, is abandoned for a single year, owing to the death of the occupant, that field becomes for that year a forest. The theory which thus treats the supposed field is open to these charges:—

(1.)—That, although possibly in accord with Supplementary Rule IX., it sets aside the definition of the word "forest" given in rule 2 of the rules. A forest then is defined to be a "tract", and I cannot conceive that the word was intended to apply to stray survey numbers.

(2.)—It leads to some inconvenience in revenue administration.

(3.)—It makes effective forest administration difficult, and in particular has led to Rule V. of the rules published on 1st April, with the note appended to it.

8. Regarding the last of the foregoing objections further remark may be made. The rule referred to, if it is to remain as at present (potentially at least) universally operative, must, I think, be condemned. It is happily very much neglected (some Deputy Commissioners will not permit their patels to use it), but if acted upon it is a trap for the ignorant, and a ready means by which patels may harass and oppress.

For who, I would ask, can construe the rule with its rider? What villager can tell to what land the rule applies, and to what it does not? What Deputy Commissioner can undertake to supervise the petty operations of the thousand or twelve hundred patels of his district, collecting, most of them, only a few annas, or at most a few rupees in the year? Had it not been that our patels supply an agency by which much may be done that could not otherwise have been even attempted, no one would have thought in a province, the greater part of which is, as the saying goes, cultivated up to the door-posts, of declaring all the uncultivated patches which intersperse our villages forest, and of making an income off the bushes that grow on them. Even with the patel's help such a principle could not be carried out in its integrity, and a rider was therefore added to the rule which leaves it weak and indistinct.

This is not the place to make proposals for changes of system; but I may just state my opinion that Rule V. should (as was done in Wun with my predecessor's approval*) be limited to selected tracts, and that we should not put it in the power even of patels to harass any one who picks up a stick or a leaf on any worthless bit of unoccupied land in Berar.

* *Vide* correspondence ending with this office No. 154 of 15th January 1875.

6. Having made the foregoing general remarks, I proceed to notice such points as may appear to call for remark in the reports of the Deputy Conservator and of Deputy Commissioners. The latter, I may mention, are more full of information than usual, because some time before they were written I issued a circular in which I directed the attention of officers to some points which I wished them in particular to treat of.

REPORT OF DEPUTY CONSERVATOR,

Para. 5.

10. The question of the boundary of the Kelapur Reserve will be laid before the Resident very soon.

Para. 7.

I do not know whether the statement of prosecutions includes prosecutions for offences in unreserved* district forests or not. The same doubt occurs with reference to other sections in this part of the report. The number of prosecutions seems in some districts, for example, Buldana, very small; whereas in others, for example, Akola, where the forest area is extremely small, it is much larger.

* It appears from para. 23 that these are included.

Para. 18.

The remark here made illustrates what I have been urging. The yield of the demarcated State forests is insignificant, for they are enjoying "almost complete rest:" the yield of the district reserved and unreserved forests is everything, yet is stated to be unknown.* How petty the known, and how immense the unknown may be seen from para. 19, "Financial results." What the Deputy Conservator gets from Deputy Commissioners seems to be little more than an extract from treasury receipt ledgers.

* See also para. 50.

Para. 27.

The changes here described will be of much advantage to forest administration; but I was unable to concur in the proposal that a large number of villages which are now administered in revenue matters by the Deputy Commissioners should be handed over to the Forest Department, and the Resident was pleased to approve of my views. I do not know what the jealousies were which in times past had "disastrous effects." Since I have known Berar the relations between

the civil authorities of the Ellichpur district and Forest Officers have been all that could be desired, and there have been no jealousies of any kind.

Paras. 62—63.

Reading these paras. with paras. 24—27 of the District Report, the idea occurs that the Deputy Commissioners, since he seems to disapprove of the reserves in his district, and to consider fire conservancy impossible, may not have supported the Forest Department as energetically as he should have done. Colonel Bushby should understand that the reserves have been finally taken up, and that they *must* be protected. I cannot admit the position that protection is impossible. But I have still to hear what the Deputy Commissioner has to say with reference to Mr. Drysdale's allegations.

Para. 74.

I must take exception to the heading "Unreserved *or* District Forests," which seems to imply that there are no district forests except those which are unreserved.

Para. 78.

This contains the most useful table in the whole report; but I do not understand why two districts are omitted.

The large entries under the head "Timber and other produce removed *by Government Agency*," also require explanation. This return shows how large a proportion of the entire income from unreserved district forests (other than the Melghat) is derived from grazing sold under the Settlement Rules.

REPORTS OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS.

AMRAOTI.

11. This district reserved forests are said to consist of the hills east of Amraoti and two blocks near Karanja. The former tract is about to become a demarcated State forest, so little need be said regarding the present system of management in it. The timber lands have been worked on the rotation system: duty on loads, other than head-loads, is collected by patels, who have pass books, but have not been paid for their trouble. The best grazing lands are sold as rumnas; grazing over the rest is allowed on passes at fixed rates. Plough cattle of the villages in which the reserve is are free.

Report on Deputy Commissioner.

Karanja Reserve.—Wood and fuel cutting is absolutely prohibited: grazing is annually sold by rumnas. For the protection of this reserve are one 2nd class guard on 12, and one 3rd class on 8.

'*Unreserved Forests* are said erroneously (*vide* Supplementary Forest Rules XI.) to include babul buns and also land set apart by the Survey Department as Government reserves. Regarding the latter it is stated that in some cases the villagers have the right of free grazing or of using the land for cattle to lie down on. The Deputy Commissioner is evidently under an entire misapprehension in this part of his report. Forest land is defined in Supplementary Rule IX., and does not include lands assigned for village purposes, and does practically include all other unoccupied land. I do not know what the cases can be in which "grazing is at the disposal of the Forest Department alone": perhaps rumnas are referred to.

The Deputy Commissioner's statement that there are no private forests in his district seems open to question. There are probably some jaghir lands which come under the definition of forest.

The object of the Karanja *naka* is not clearly stated, nor is the amount of fees levied there given. Considering that by the rules of April 1874 no wood can be taken beyond village boundaries without being taxed, it is not clear why wood should be taxed again at Karanja. The Deputy Commissioner has not explained the non-existence of the *nakas* at Amraoti and Badnera (Supplementary Rule XXI.) The Deputy Commissioner "believes" that patels tax loads of wood other than head loads, but gives no details. One would like to know how many patels have pass books. How many passes were given of each kind,

what was realized, &c. Plantation work was carried on in the Amraoti hills, but I am not sure whether the work was executed by the Deputy Commissioner or by the Forest Department.

From the small number of persons prosecuted—48—it may be gathered that the rules requiring patels to look after all unreserved forests have (as they deserve to do) fallen into desuetude. The number of prosecutions is small even for offences connected with State and reserved forests. Under the headings of Revenue and Expenditure sums received for, and spent on account of, the Forest Department are, as would appear, mixed up with income and expenditure in respect of forests under the Deputy Commissioner's control. This should not occur in future. The Deputy Commissioner will, of course, aid the Forest Department in receiving monies and making disbursements, but should no more mix such things up with income and charges relating to forests *under his own administrative control* than he would charges or receipts of the Public Works or any other department.

The same error runs through the Report. Thus para. 20 opens with the remark "the Department felled 155 babul trees." But the Deputy Commissioner has no concern with the operations of the Forest Department, and if these trees were felled in babul buns, the fact that they were felled by the Forest Department would seem to require explanation.

AKOLA.

12. The report of this district opens with the inaccurate statement that there are no reserved forests in it. That there are no reserved State forests is true; that there are no reserved district forests is untrue.

The babul buns in this district cover 5,396 acres.

Tree planting in private lands is said to have been stimulated by the knowledge that trees are the property of the planters.

The utter neglect into which Forest Rules have fallen may be gathered from the astonishing fact now, as it would appear, for the first time brought to light, that in the year 1875-76, the Deputy Commissioner, on his own authority, set aside 41,953 as coppices. Intelligent administration becomes impossible if Deputy Commissioners thus defy rules laid down for their guidance. The Deputy Commissioner who set aside this immense area should have made an application under Forest Rule 37. But he may never have seen the Forest Rules published, as they were in the *Gazette* and not in a circular.

In this report, as in that for Amraoti, revenue raised by Forest Officers is mixed up with that obtained by the Deputy Commissioner from forest lands under his charge.

It is stated that gum and other minor forest produce is annually put up to auction village by village. This does not seem a good mode of raising revenue on an article such as gum. It should be sold by the tahsil or station house.

It is stated that the patel is responsible for the granting of passes under Rule XXXIII., but nothing is said as to the special arrangement which the rule contemplates, and it may safely be stated that none have been made or thought of.

ELLICHPUR.

13. Establishment costing Rupees 880 per annum is kept up to look after 4,360 acres of babul buns, the net profit from which was Rupees 686 only. The establishment seems large for this duty. Collections made by Civil and Forest Officers are mixed up as usual.

The Deputy Commissioner makes the astonishing statement that, except in the Melghat, there are no unreserved forests in his district. He evidently has never read the Supplementary Rules. He further observes that the rules of April 1874 do not apply to his district. Ellichpur has no district reserved forests other than babul buns.

From a memo. appended to the report it appears that during the year 1,620 new mango trees were planted in private lands.

BULDANA.

14. The area of the district forests has been reduced from 479 square miles to 380 square miles, owing to extension of cultivation, and to exclusion of lands assigned under the Survey and Settlement Rules.

Prosecutions are very few.

From the report itself I was unable to discover which class of forest the Deputy Commissioner has in view in many of his paras. In fact from the remark in the margin I gathered that Colonel Bushby had no clear notions on this fundamental point. On a reference made to him he has explained that the report relates to unreserved district forests only, and that he, as Deputy Commissioner, has nothing to do with the reserved district forests. I fear that it must be held that this statement only corroborates the impression conveyed by the report, for babul buns at all events are, I take it, administered by the Deputy Commissioner, and they are certainly reserved district forests.

Para. 17.—"All other forms are rather suited for reserved than the district forests."

It is noted that during the year the list of babul buns was revised and (as far as I can understand the para.) 1,962 acres were newly assigned as babul buns. Here again Rule 37 was neglected.

In Buldana, patels are allowed to grant permission to cut:—

Babul,	Tamarind,	Neem,	Mhowa,
Chironji,	Pipul,	Mango,	Bamboo.

In the case of the other five reserved sorts the Tahsildar's permission has to be obtained.

In para. 31, the Deputy Commissioner states that the Rules of April 1874 have freed lac, gums, &c., from taxation. In Akola, as has been seen, the contrary is held, and I can scarcely conceive that it was ever intended that lac, gum, &c., should be exempted. But, however this may be, the fact that these articles are treated differently in adjoining districts is only one among many proofs of the confusion in which forest administration now is. The Deputy Commissioner notes that private persons are beginning to rear babul buns, but that no attempt has yet "been made to appropriate them from their owners." Certainly no such attempt should be made.

The Deputy Commissioner appears to think that patels form an effective agency for collecting dues on produce removed from their villages.

BASIM.

15. The accounts of all classes of forests are mixed up, and the Deputy Commissioner evidently wished to explain, had it been possible for him to do so, expenditure incurred by the Forest Department, with which he has nothing whatever to do. It is noted that 24,829 acres have been set aside as coppices, and 2,643 as babul buns. Whether, when the former area was set aside, any report was made, or whether Rule 37 was observed, there is nothing to show.

Prosecutions were few, if, as I conjecture, the figures include offences in forests of all classes.

WUN.

16. In this district there are 21 district forest reserves covering 219 acres, besides, I presume, babul buns.

The Deputy Commissioner notes that in all five paths have been made, and the process of demarcation almost completed. The creation of large district reserves and the abandonment of the attempt to subject unreserved forests to Rule V. of the rules of 1874, distinguish Wun from all other districts. These reserves are strictly preserved, not even grazing being allowed.

The total number of trees in the reserves is 30,154.

These district reserves were at one time more numerous. They were reduced in number, while the blocks were somewhat increased in size in May 1876, under my predecessor's order. Another administrative peculiarity of the Wun district is the substitution of a tax on cattle* for a tax on grazing, *i. e.*, a cattle census is made each year and grazing fees levied accordingly, after which cattle may be pastured anywhere in the district, specially reserved blocks being of course excepted. One large item of revenue in Wun is the income from sales of mango and mhowa trees. The amount realized last year was Rs. 7,274.

* Like the Tirni tax of the Punjab.

The auction is by village, and includes trees in reserved as well as in unreserved district forests, and (though irregularly) trees standing in occupied lands "when the right has not become the property of the khatedar." Charcoal and lime-burners pay something, but all other minor forest produce, *e. g.*, gums, lac., &c., is free. The system of forest administration in the Wun district is, as far as I can judge, excellent, and is *thoroughly understood by the Deputy Commissioner.* The cattle census rate paid, the people may pasture cattle and take forest produce anywhere all over the district (the 21 district and the State reserves being, of course, excluded) without being interfered with by any one.

The system is admirably suited to the district and to its population.

17. The general results of the above review are by no means satisfactory. The Deputy Commissioners of Amraoti and Basim have only recently taken charge of their districts, and may be excused for not having mastered the forest system in force; but it is not creditable to the Deputy Commissioners of Ellichpur and Buldana that they should prove themselves unacquainted with the rules they have to work.

18. For the future I propose:—

(1.)—When the new Forest Act is introduced, to replace the present confused, illogical, and voluminous rules by a new set,

(2.)—To insist on the complete observance of Supplementary Rule XIII., to inform Deputy Commissioners that they are responsible to me and not to the Deputy Conservator for the management of district forests.

(3).—To issue a skeleton forest report and statement which shall secure something like exact knowledge as to what lands district forests consist of, and how they are administered. In this skeleton report, Deputy Commissioners will be informed that they need not touch on any matter connected with State forests unless, as the responsible heads of their districts, they find it necessary to point out some evil, or make some proposal regarding such forests.

19. The Resident will, I trust, understand that in making the foregoing proposals, my object is not to limit the interference which Forest Officers under Rule XIV. most legitimately and usefully exercise in *all* forests, or to restrict the direct operations of the Forest Department. On the contrary, I shall take

care that every suggestion made by the Deputy Conservator receives full attention and shall rather welcome, than otherwise, any proposals which he may submit for taking any district reserves under his direct control. All I am concerned to see is that *rules are obeyed*, which as I have shown they are not, and, that if I am to be responsible for the management of district forests, I have also the means of controlling such management. District reports, though addressed to me, will reach me through the Deputy Conservator, and with his remarks, and should Mr. Drysdale require for the returns which he has to submit any figures other than those of the statement which I shall prescribe, these also shall be sent him.

20. In closing these remarks I would express my opinion that the management of demarcated State forests has been most successful, and most creditable to the Deputy Conservator and his subordinates.

I have also much pleasure in testifying to the excellent relations maintained by the forest officials of all classes in the Melghat with the people. Mr. Ballantyne in particular deserves credit for the confidence with which he has inspired the timid population of those hills. I attach a letter from the Deputy Commissioner which shows better than any words of mine how completely they have been conciliated. The successful repression of fires in the Melghat is the direct result of the considerate treatment which the people have received.

21. Mr. Drysdale has lately submitted proposals for re-organizing the Forest Department in Berar, the chief feature of which is that the Deputy Conservator will be relieved of all executive work. I cannot lengthen this memo. by discussing these proposals; but if their effect will be to give the Deputy Conservator more time to look after Forests *generally*, they will undoubtedly be beneficial. All that relates to State forests is satisfactory, but district forests administration requires a far closer attention than it has hitherto received.

W. B. JONES,

Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

AMRAOTI,
The 7th September 1878.

(*Vide* para. 20.)

No. 917 OF 1878.

FROM

CAPTAIN K. J. L. MACKENZIE,

Deputy Commissioner,

Ellichpur District,

To

THE COMMISSIONER,

Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

DATED CHIKALDA, *24th May* 1878.

SIR,

IN March last, when encamped at Hatru, a fire accidentally broke* out in the heart of the State Reserve at the village of Baru close by. The wind was high, and it got considerable head before the nearest watches from Hatru and Raipur could possibly reach the locality; and it must have got quite beyond control and done considerable damage (instead of being very soon put out as it was) had not the people most readily come from all directions to the assistance of the officials. What surprised and impressed me very much was

*Lighted, as afterwards discovered, by the carelessness of a Kullal.

that though most of the younger and more active men were at the time absent from their villages at the Dhamangaon Bazaar, the patels and older men at the sign of the smoke at once turned out of their own accord, some from villages quite 15 and 20 miles distant, and as they came on to the scene, acting on their own intelligence and without direction from the officials (who were too few to be everywhere) hemmed in the fire. This display of readiness and good feeling struck me as a most marked tribute to the tact and bearing of our local forest officials, and if they were not really in accord and liked by the hill people, it is very certain that these latter would never have troubled themselves to have turned out quite unsolicited as they did. So much depends on carrying these people with us, that I have deemed the fact worthy of being brought to your special notice. I had intended to have remarked on it in my revenue report in alluding to the condition of the kurkus, but it escaped my memory at the time. Not only is the fact very creditable to the spirit of forest administration as practiced, but it redounds very much to Mr. Ballantyne's credit in particular, and of the natives under him, of whom Daroga Ahmed Ali deserves, perhaps, special mention. I am sorry to have omitted the subject from my annual report, but I trust this letter will repair the omission.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) K. J. L. MACKENZIE,

Deputy Commissioner,

Ellichpur District.

Block No. 6 was opened for the cutting of timber, and blocks No. 6 and 7 for the cutting of bamboos. It was not thought necessary to open a third block for bamboo cutting, as a block had been opened for this purpose in the Bairagarh Reserve.

Neither of the blocks opened in the Gugamal Reserve is included in the portion of this forest that will ultimately be retained.

District Reserves—Yield and working

50. The yield of these reserves is not known at present, no separate accounts being kept for them by district officers.

4.—Financial Results.

51. The following are the financial results :—

Budget heads receipts	Bairagarh Reserve	Gugamal Reserve	Ellichpur District Reserves	Amraoti District Reserves	Akola District Reserves
	Rs a. p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p
I —Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency. .	1,496 3 10		..	...	227 2 6
II —Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers		17,605 8 9	4,123 1 6	60,138 2 9	3,535 9 0
III Confiscated drift and waif wood	..		1,2 7 0 9	473 6 3	2 2 3
V Miscellaneous	324 6 3			71 7 8	69 15 11
Total	1 820 10 1	17,6 s 9	5,3 0 2 3	60,983 0 8	3,834 13 8
Total expenditure under A and B	17,763 15 3	7,3 6 12 1	1,028 14 3	4,400 11 5	238 1 3
Surplus	..	10,248 12 8	4,351 4 0	56,582 5 3	3,596 12 5
Deficit . .	15 943 5 2		.	...	

Compared with last year there has been a decrease in the revenue of the Bairagarh and Gugamal Reserves of Rs 2,250 and Rs. 2,053 respectively, whilst the district reserves of Ellichpur, Amraoti, and Akola show an increase respectively of Rs. 1,275, Rs. 11,438, and Rs. 147.

Under expenditure there is little difference in the figures of the two years.

B.—Southern Division.

1.—Area and Boundaries.

Area and boundaries—General remarks

52. An addition of one square mile has been made to the area of the reserves in this division, owing to changes that have been effected during the year in the boundaries of the Garu-Matergaon and Kinwat Reserves.

Garu Matergaon Reserve—Area excluded

53. In the Garu-Matergaon Reserve 408 acres have been excluded in order to provide increased grazing land for the village of Warwand, and to effect an improvement in the boundary line.

Kinwat Reserve—Area added

54. To the area of the Kinwat Reserve 796 acres have been added by taking up the deserted village of Danora. This village is situated on the banks of the Penganga River in the north-east corner of the reserve, and is well suited for the growth of timber. The land is entirely waste, and at present contains trees of the same description and quality as are to be found in other portions of the reserve similarly situated.

55. I regret having to record that the final demarcation of this reserve has not yet been completed. Effect was given during the year to the recommendation made in my letter to your address No. 717-1463, dated 27th March 1877, in that the reserve was divided into two blocks, so as to exclude all jaghir and izarah land, with the exception of the two izarah villages of Malegaon, for which compensation amounting to Rs. 800 was paid ; but the Deputy Commissioner and myself could not agree as to the line of boundary in several places, and our differences had therefore to be referred to you for orders.

Kelapur Reserve—Demarcation delayed

The Deputy Commissioner wished me to exclude certain lands he was desirous of having cultivated, and I could not arrange to do so without having a very irregular line of boundary, having numerous salient and re-entering angles, which is obviously most objectionable. Moreover, had I agreed to what he wished, a large area of forest land would have been, excluded, and artificial boundaries rendered necessary where otherwise natural boundaries were available..

As soon as orders have been issued on the above reference, the permanent demarcation of the reserve will be commenced. Meanwhile temporary boundary pillars have been erected round the blocks selected, which occupy an area in the aggregate of about 50 square miles.

Block No I., 40 square miles.
II., 10 do

2.—Protection and Improvement.

56. The following additions have been made to the establishments in this division :—

Establishments

3 Forest guards at Rs. 8 each *per mensem* for the Garu-Matergaon Reserve.

4 Forest guards at Rs. 8 each *per mensem* for the Ghatbori Reserve.

57. Subjoined is a statement of the prosecutions instituted for breaches of the Forest Rules :—

Prosecutions for breach of Forest Rules

Number of Prosecutions		Convictions obtained.	
Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Number of cases.	Number of persons
119	201	107	180

Compared with last year there has been an increase in prosecutions of 50 cases and 27 persons, whilst the proportion of convictions to prosecutions has been about 17 per cent. more as regards cases, and 5 per cent. more as regards persons.

58. The same difficulty as in previous years has, I am glad to report, not been experienced from cattle graziers in the Garu-Matergaon and Ghatbori reserves, a circumstance which may be attributed partly to the greater vigilance of the establishment, and partly to the graziers having learned from experience that Government are firm in their determination to prevent grazing.

Garu-Matergaon and Ghatbori Reserves—Same difficulty as in former years not experienced in preventing grazing

Below is a statement of the number of cattle pounded, and the amount of fines inflicted in both reserves during the last two years :—

Year.	Reserve.	Number of cattle pounded.	Amount of fines.		
			Rs.	a.	p.
1876-77	Garu-Matergaon ...	3,750	728	6	0
	Ghatbori	1,642	389	15	0
1877-78	Garu-Matergaon ...	2,710	658	10	0
	Ghatbori	1,310	344	1	0

For the future, when clearing the boundary lines annually, every tree or shoot cut down will be heaped on the reserve side of the lines, as a safeguard against the ingress of cattle. And where cattle are most troublesome, the stones on the boundary lines will also be collected, and made into temporary walls.

Commutation of grazing rights in the Penganga Reserve.

59. Proposals have been submitted for commuting the rights of grazing in a portion of the Penganga Reserve enjoyed by the villages of Marwari and Panalla. I have recommended that in lieu of the present rights an area of 338 acres should be excluded from the reserve, and be made over to the villagers for free grazing and for the supply of forest produce of all kinds under the district forest rules. The reserve will then contain an area of 17 square miles 462 acres, free of rights of any kind.

Kinwat Reserve—Proposal to take up additional land.

60. A proposal was also made during the year to buy up the villages of Gari, Bori and Therdi adjoining the Kinwat Reserve, the object being to secure a continuous river boundary on the eastern and southern sides of the reserve. The inhabitants of these villages, however, were so averse to leaving, and the compensation necessary for the taking up of the land was found to be so large, that the proposal had to be abandoned.

Area protected from fire—General remarks.

61. Of a total area of 169,188 acres attempted to be protected, success has been attained with 69,120 acres, at a cost of Rs. 1,447, or a little over 4 pie per acre.

Garu-Matergaon Reserve—Fire conservancy.

62. Only one fire occurred in this reserve, and it is supposed to have been accidentally kindled by a traveller on the main road between Buldana and Khamgaon. The area burned was 3,880 acres. Considering that the reserve was divided for fire protection into 24 distinct blocks, and that the grass was comparatively short, I do not think that the fire should have been allowed to spread over so large an area; but, as pointed out in my letter No. 501, dated 6th June 1878, when alluding to the annual occurrence of fires in the reserves of the Buldana district, so long as the inhabitants of the villages surrounding the reserves have an idea, as they at present undoubtedly have, that the Forest Department has not the hearty support and co-operation of the District Civil authorities, it is not to be expected that they will render immediate assistance when fires do break out, and unless this is done the establishment of itself is almost helpless.

The area burnt bears a very small proportion to the area saved, and this reserve may therefore be considered as having been successfully protected for two consecutive years.

Ghatbori Reserve—Fire conservancy.

63. The remarks made in the foregoing para. on the subject of fires are particularly applicable to the Ghatbori reserve. It is of common occurrence for the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, when their cattle are seized for grazing within forest limits, to threaten to burn the reserve in the hot weather, and they generally manage to give effect to their threats. In my letter above referred to, I have suggested that the patels of these villages should be summoned by the Deputy Commissioner, and that it should be explained to them that Government is firm in its determination to protect the forests, and that if they persist in setting fire to them every year as they have done hitherto, serious notice will be taken of the matter. The Police should also be reminded that it is a portion of their duty to detect and bring to justice offenders against the Forest Rules, and more particularly those connected with firing the forests.

In no instance has any one been detected yet in setting fire to the Ghatbori Reserve. The forest subordinates are carefully watched, and when they are cooking their food or otherwise employed, is generally the time when fires break out, and the fires are, as a rule, kindled in two or three places at one and the same time. Since March last no less than 12 different fires have occurred, burning altogether 16,000 acres. These fires did not take place near a road, path, or in the proximity of cultivated land, but in the centre of a ravine or on the slope of a hill some distance inside the reserve, thus clearly showing that they were intentionally lit. On one occasion as many as three fires broke out at the same time.

Penganga Reserve—Fire conservancy.

64. Two fires occurred in the Penganga Reserve burning forest to the extent of 2,500 acres. One fire was caused by the carelessness of a subordinate in clearing the boundary line, and the other is supposed to have been purposely kindled by a discharged guard.

This reserve may be considered to have been successfully protected since 1876, or for three consecutive years.

Kelapur Reserve—Fire conservancy.

65. Successful fire conservancy cannot be looked for in the Kelapur Reserve until the boundary line has been permanently fixed, and till then I have forbidden any large sum being expended on this account.

The Assistant Conservator reports that about one-third of the reserve has been saved at a cost of Rs. 38.

Kinwat Reserve—Fire conservancy.

66. No fire occurred in the Kinwat Reserve till nearly the end of April 1878. On the 20th of that month a Kunbi of the village of Sondabi was burning rubbish in a field bordering some waste land, and in close proximity to the reserve, when wind springing up, the grass on the waste land caught fire, and the wind increasing, burning pieces of grass were carried across the fire-path, and set fire to the reserve. The Ranger was quickly on the spot with a gang of Gonds and people from neighbouring villages, who came of themselves to render assistance; but he appears to have lost his head, for instead of sacrificing a portion of the reserve by making counterfires, as he had orders to do on the occurrence of a fire, he tried to beat out the flames with branches, and, as might have been expected, failed entirely. It was not till two-thirds of the reserve had been burnt that he remembered his orders, and extinguished the fire by counterfires.

The reserve, it may be remarked, had been divided for fire protection into 20 separate blocks; but the fire-paths were of little use against a fire backed up, like the present one was, by a strong gale of wind. This fire is much to be regretted, as in no other reserve in Berar have I seen the benefits of fire conservancy make themselves apparent so quickly.

Although the reserve had only been protected for two years, seedlings were

springing up in numbers wherever there were seed bearing trees, and a fair depth of soil.

Natural reproduction in reserves.

67. The Garu-Matergaon, Penganga, and Kinwat Reserves are the only ones in which I have noticed any natural reproduction.

On my inspection of the Garu-Matergaon Reserve in January last, I was glad to notice that almost every anjan tree had seeded.

Should the approaching rains prove favorable, we may therefore hope for a large crop of seedlings next year. It is a most unusual occurrence, I believe, to find a general seeding of the anjan tree. I have never seen an instance of it myself before, although I have often observed individual trees bearing seed. The trees in the anjan forest to the south-west of the Melghat also seeded during the year.

Kinwat Reserve—Plantations.

68. The planting of teak and bamboo on the lowlands between the Penganga River and the hilly portion of the Kinwat Reserve was commenced in November last, and already 200 acres have been completed at a cost for first formation of Rs. 413, or about Rs. 2-1-0 an acre. A small gang of Gonds was entertained for the work, and it is intended to keep these men on throughout the year, as when not engaged on the plantations they can be employed in fire-path burning or road-making. They ought, therefore, shortly to become as experienced in forest work as the Gonds in the Bairagarh Reserve. Excepting that the plots were 1′ × 1′ instead of 18″ × 18″, the system pursued in the formation of these plantations was the same as that adopted in the Melghat, and referred to in para. 35.

Penganga Reserve—Road from Basim to Pusad.

69. The construction of the main road from Basim to Pusad has now been commenced. This road will pass through the centre of the Penganga Reserve, and will, in course of time, be the chief line of export for forest produce from the reserve.

Buildings.

70. Three new thanas have been erected, one in the Penganga, and two in the Kinwat Reserve.

3.—Yield and Working.

State Reserves—Yield and working

71. No timber operations are being carried on in any of the South Berar reserves, the only produce from which revenue is derived at present being grass.

District Reserves—Yield not known.

72. The yield of the District Reserves is not known.

4.—Financial Results.

Financial results.

73. The financial results are exhibited in the subjoined statement :—

Budget heads, Receipts	Garu-Matergaon Reserve	Ghatbori Reserve.	Penganga Reserve	Kelapur Reserve.	Kinwat Reserve	Buldana District Reserves	Wun District Reserves	Basim District Reserves	Total.
	Rs a p	Rs. a. p	Rs a p	Rs a. p	Rs a. p	Rs a p.	Rs. a p	Rs a p.	Rs a p
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency.	7 14 0	..		0 5 0	...	31 11 2	264 13 1	..	304 11 3
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers	682 12 6	571 7 0	328 15 3	498 12 0	234 11 10	901 15 3	7,611 14 9	2,071 4 11	13,101 14 0
III.—Confiscated, drift and waif wood				...	...	10 1 8	46 4 11	40 13 5	97 4 0
V.—Miscellaneous	65 2 4	63 10 8	66 14 8	63 5 7	63 9 8	9 2 1	35 5 7	21 11 8	388 14 3
Total	955 12 10	635 2 2	395 13 11	562 6 7	298 5 6	952 14 2	7,958 6 4	2,133 14 0	13,892 11 6
Total expenditure under A and B	4,018 9 7	3,539 12 0	3,234 4 10	3,206 0 5	4,667 7 6	55 10 0	1,633 2 4	308 10 8	20,663 9 4
Surplus						897 4 2	6,325 4 0	1,825 3 4	
Deficit	3,062 12 9	2,904 9 10	2,838 6 11	2,643 9 10	4,369 2 0	..			6,770 13 10

Compared with last year there has been an increase of Rs. 695 in the revenue of the State Reserves, whilst the district reserves of Wun and Basim show an increase of Rs. 978 and Rs. 1,015 respectively, and of Buldana, a decrease of Rs. 48.

Under expenditure the only difference requiring notice is an increase of Rs. 2,614 in the State Reserves, which is due chiefly to the Assistant Conservator's promotion; to the appointment of additional establishments, and to the formation of plantations in the Kinwat Reserve.

SECTION III.—UNRESERVED OR DISTRICT FORESTS.

1.—Area and Boundaries.

Area of unreserved forests.

74. In the area statement attached to this Report, I have entered the same figures as last year, there being several discrepancies in the returns forwarded to me by district officers, and no time being left for me to make inquiries regarding them without unduly delaying the submission of the report. The above statement shows the area of unreserved forests to amount to 2,758 square miles.

2.—Protection and Improvement.

General remarks.

75. The Melghat forests, occupying an area of about 800 square miles, are managed directly by the Forest Department. The remaining forests are in charge of Deputy Commissioners.

Within the Melghat no restriction whatever is placed on the cutting or collection of forest produce, but on being exported all produce is liable to duty, which is levied at certain nakas or wood bazaars at the foot of the hills.

Grazing is permitted everywhere on payment of fixed annual dues. These dues, which are obliged to be paid before the cattle enter the forests, are collected by the forest officers of the Melghat, and by certain tahsildars in the Ellichpur, Amraoti and Akola districts. The rules for the collection of the dues have lately been revised, and hereafter the following officers only will issue passes for grazing:—

Deputy Conservator of Forests.
Assistant Conservator of Forests, Melghat.
Extra Assistant Commissioner, Argaon.
Tahsildar, Ellichpur.
" Daryapur.
" Akot.
" Jalgaon.
" Chikalda.

Naka Karkuns—Melghat.

The greater portion of the reserve will now doubtless be collected by the naka karkuns, and this will give employment to these men during the rainy season, when there is little export of forest produce, and when therefore they have comparatively little work to do. It will be a great convenience, too, to cattle owners being able to obtain grazing passes at the nakas on their way to the forests, for hitherto these men have in many instances had to go long distances for passes before being able to take their cattle into the hills.

The rules under which the remaining unreserved forests are worked were published in the *Residency Orders* of the 6th April 1874.

Under these rules 13 descriptions of trees are reserved, and are only allowed to be felled on the special permission of the district officers, and after payment of fixed dues. All other trees are considered unreserved, and can be cut either for building purposes or for fuel on payment of duty to the village officials—patels and patwaris, who receive a percentage on their collections. Head loads of fuel are allowed free of duty.

Grass and minor produce are sold annually by auction under the Survey and Settlement Rules.

3.—Yield and Working.

Produce exported from Melghat unreserved forests.

76. The following is a statement of the produce exported from the Melghat unreserved forests :—

Total produce.		Teak.	Unreserved timber.	Firewood.	Lime-burnt.	Charcoal.	Grass.	Lac.	Teak leaves.	Bamboos.	Bamboo tatties.	Roots and fruits.	Gum.	Miscellaneous.
61,641½	Karass.													
318	Bullock loads.													
49,305½	Head loads.													
1	Cart loads.													
15,482½	Karass.													
87½	Bullock loads.													
40,620½	Head loads.													
8,251½	Cart loads.													
361	Camel loads.													
17,804	Bullock loads.													
50	Cart loads.													
11	Bullock loads.													
30	Cart loads.													
4,657	Bullock loads.													
5,505	Head loads.													
4,061½	Cart loads.													
3	Camel loads.													
8,004½	Bullock loads.													
10	Bullock loads.													
405½	Head loads.													
6,091½	Bundles.													
984,058	Number.													
3,026	Number.													
1,422	Cart loads.													
2	Camel loads.													
4,046	Bullock loads.													
3,754½	Head loads.													
2	Cart loads.													
23	Bullock loads.													
19	Head loads.													
48	Bullock loads.													
186½	Head loads.													

Remaining unreserved Forests—Yield not known.

77. No record is kept of the produce taken from the remaining unreserved forests.

4.—Financial Results.

Financial results.

78. Subjoined is a statement of the revenue and expenditure of these forests, the revenue being shown in budget head detail, as specially desired by you :—

Budget Heads,—Receipts.	Melghat Unreserved Forests.			Akola Unreserved Forests.			Buldana Unreserved Forests.			Wun Unreserved Forests.			Basim Unreserved Forests.			Total.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency—																		
(a.)—Timber	...	...	...	...	...	...	544	0	11	98	0	1	...	...	...	642	1	0
(b.)—Firewood and charcoal	...	...	...	1,135	12	6	26	8	11	43	6	6	...	...	...	1,205	11	11
(c.)—Bamboos... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	0	...	...	...	1	8	0
(e.)—Grass and other minor produce ...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	651	8	10	...	...	...	651	8	10
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers—																		
(a.)—Timber	78,295	2	3	16	9	0	941	10	5	925	5	11	1,690	10	5	81,869	6	0
(b.)—Firewood and charcoal	5,922	9	9	1,886	7	10	416	0	10	355	13	3	1,040	14	6	9,621	14	2
(c.)—Bamboos	9,284	9	11	11	4	7	...	...	...	332	10	9	99	6	10	9,728	0	1
(d.)—Grazing and fodder grass	5,793	3	0	15,362	9	7	13,988	14	2	15,773	11	8	4,742	10	8	55,661	1	1
(e.)—Other minor produce	4,490	6	6	400	14	0	888	8	6	5,448	2	8	2,782	14	2	14,010	13	9
III.—Confiscated, drift and waif wood	...	...	...	10	11	4	181	14	8	138	14	10	204	3	4	535	12	2
V.—Miscellaneous—																		
(a)—Fines and forfeitures.	...	...	...	6	14	0	164	0	5	...	..	..	16	10	8	187	9	1
(b.)—Refunds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	12	11	91	9	0	140	5	11
(c.)—Other sources ...	1,057	3	7	343	1	7	0	3	9	57	3	10	0	6	8	1,458	3	5
Total ...	104,843	3	0	19,174	4	5	17,151	14	6	23,875	3	3	10,669	6	3	1,75,713	15	5
Total expenditure under A and B	30,743	14	8	1,190	6	6	1,001	4	6	4,899	7	1	1,543	5	4	39,378	6	1
Surplus ...	74,099	4	4	17,983	13	11	16,150	10	0	18,975	12	2	9,126	0	11	1,36,335	9	4

Comparing the revenue of the Melghat unreserved forests with that of last year, there has been an increase in receipts from timber of Rs. 13,607, and from minor produce of Rs. 870, whilst, on the other hand, there has been a decrease in receipts from firewood and charcoal of Rs. 1,070, and from bamboos of Rs. 3,217. The revenue from grass and grazing is about equal for both years.

With regard to the remaining unreserved forests, there has been an increase in revenue of Rs. 735 in the Akola district, of Rs. 2,935 in the Wun district, and of Rs. 1,722 in the Basim district, whilst in the Buldana district there has been a decrease of Rs. 1,880.

There is little difference in the expenditure on these forests during the two years except in the Melghat, where there has been an increase in 1877-78 of Rs. 7,713, owing chiefly to the naka karkuns' fees being larger, and to arrears of compensation having to be paid to one of the Melghat Rajahs.

SECTION IV.—GENERAL REMARKS.

Woods and fibres sent to the Paris Exhibition.

79. Specimens of the following woods and fibres from the Berar Forests were sent last November through the Government of India to the Paris Exhibition :—

Woods.

Botanical name.	Local name.	Botanical name.	Local name.
Acacia arabica ...	Babul.	Ficus infectoria ...	Parkar.
Do. eburnea ...	Murmati.	Do. glomerata ...	Gular.
Do. ferruginea ...	Son-khair.	Do. religiosa ...	Pipal.
Adina cordifolia ...	Haldu.	Gardenia turgida ...	Pendra.
Anthocephalus cadamba ...	Kaddam.	Gmelina arborea ...	Sewan.
Bassia latifolia ...	Mohwa.	Holarrhena antidysenterica ...	Dhudi.
Banhinia malabarica ...	Apta.	Phyllanthus emblica ...	Aola.
Do. purpurea ...	Koilari.	Schrebera swietenoides ...	Moka.
Do. variegata ...	Kachnar.	Sesbania ægyptica ...	Saori.
Bridelia retusa ...	Karka.	Do. grandiflora ...	Hadga.
Cordia Macleodii ...	Dahipalas.	Stereospermum chelonoides ...	Tetu.
Diospyros Melanoxylon ...	Tendoo.	Do. suaveolens ...	Phalgatetu.
Erythrina suberosa ...	Pangra.	Tectona grandis ...	Sagwan.
Ficus indica ...	Bur.	Terminalia chebula ...	Hara.

Fibres.

Botanical name.	Local name.	Botanical name.	Local name.
Banhinia Vahlii ...	Mahwal.	Ficus infectoria ...	Pakar.
Bombax malabaricum ...	Semul.	Grewia tiliæfolia ...	Dhamin.
Butea frondosa ...	Palas.	Helicteres Isora ...	Marorphal.
Careya arborea ...	Kumbi.	Sterculia colorata ...	Pinj.
Erioloena Hookeriana ...	Arang.	Do. urens ...	Karai.
Ficus indica ...	Bur.	Do. villosa ...	Kuddal.

Banhinia fibre converted into paper.

80. Four tons of the fibre of the Mahwal creeper (*Banhinia Vahlii*) have also been despatched to England, with a view to its suitability for the manufacture of paper being practically tested.

A firm in London has agreed to convert the fibre into paper, and to report on the success of the measure.

81. Of the eucalyptus trees referred to in para. 46 of last year's report only about 150 are now alive, 100 being at Pili and 50 at Chikalda.

Eucalyptus seed—Experimental sowing.

The unfavourable rainy season was the cause of so many of the plants dying.

The plants now living, and which may be considered as established, are principally "rostrata."

The seed of eucalyptus bicolar and eucalyptus treticornis, forwarded with your endorsement No. 253-M., dated 30th October 1877, was sown in the Kolkaz nursery in April last, and there are now 32 plants of the former and ten of the latter alive.

82. From the carob seed (*ceratonia siliqua*) sent with your No. 3440, dated 2nd October 1876, 250 plants were raised in the Kolkaz nursery; but of these I regret to say only one plant now remains alive, and it is but nine inches high. The plants received every care and attention, and were tried in different places, 24 being sent to the Public Garden at Chikalda* to the care of the Civil Department, and about 100 being transplanted into one of the plantations at Pili. I can only conclude, therefore, that the climate of the Melghat is unsuited to the carob tree.

Carob seed—Experimental sowing.

*Where two are now alive.

83. Last year I procured from the Punjab a small quantity of seed of the following conifers for trial at Chikalda:—

Coniferous seed—Experimental sowing.

Abies Smithiana,	Pinus excelsa,
,, Webbiana,	,, longifolia;
Juniperus excelsa,	

and I have now about 114 seedlings of Abies Smithiana, 50 of Abies Webbiana, 125 of Pinus excelsa, and 1,000 of Pinus longifolia. These plants it is intended to put out permanently on the Chikalda plateau during the rains of 1879. The juniper seed did not germinate.

84. The young plants of babul and neem in the small nurseries established in 17 villages in the Gugamal Reserve, referred to in para. 48 of last year's report, were transplanted in July 1877 at 10 feet distances, and in each village there is now about an acre of plantation fully stocked with trees varying in height from 1 to 6 feet. Where there were not sufficient transplants available, seed was sown in well-worked up plots, and it has germinated freely.

Plantations of babul and neem in the Gugamal Reserve.

In addition to the above plantations 5 and 12 acres respectively were sown in August 1877 with babul and neem in plots at 6 feet distances in the deserted villages of Sakri and Kund, and in the cold weather these areas were reported to be fully stocked with plants varying in height from 1 to 5 feet. Most of the plants were, however, cut down by frost afterwards; but I am glad to say they have now commenced to throw up fresh shoots from the roots. Altogether Rs. 187-13 were expended on these plantations.

85. The operations of the year as recorded in this Report testify to the good work done by my assistants, Messrs. Ballantyne and Prevost.

Notice of officers.

Mr. Stewart, who was transferred to Berar from the Punjab, joined at Amraoti on the 14th February 1878, and has since been employed in the Amraoti hills, and in the babul buns of the Akola district.

Of the subordinates the following have given most satisfaction :—

Ranger Rasul Khan, Amraoti district.
„ Ahmed Ali, Bairagarh Reserve.
„ Naraian Dhondo, Gugamal Reserve.
„ Narsing Rao, Garu-Matergaon Reserve.
Forester Kamdar Khan, Bairagarh Reserve.

A. T. DRYSDALE,

Deputy Conservator of Forests,

Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

APPENDIX A.

The 28th November 1877.

No. 115.

WHEREAS, it is desirable to allow sportsmen reasonable facilities for shooting in the forest reserves of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, and at the same time to maintain the primary responsibility of the forest officers for protection of the forests from injury by fire or otherwise, the following Rules on the subject are prescribed by the Resident under authority of Rules 29 and 30 of the Forest Rules, and published for general information:—

Rules for regulating shooting in the Forest Reserves in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

I.—The privilege of shooting in any forest reserve in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts is hereby conceded to all heads of civil departments in the province, and to all military officers permanently quartered at Ellichpur, on condition that intimation be sent to the local forest officer in charge in time to reach him four days before it is proposed to shoot in any reserve, and subject to discretionary right of watch by the forest officers.

II.—Similarly, the privilege of shooting in the forest reserves of each district is hereby conceded to the officers belonging to the civil administration of that district, subject to the same conditions as in Rule I.

The privilege allowed to the officers mentioned in this and the preceding para. is granted to them as known and responsible officers of Government, and in the confidence that, being well aware of the immense risks which carelessness in regard to fire involves, they will take the same precautions which forest officers themselves would take while shooting in reserves.

III.—No other person shall be entitled to shoot in any forest reserve in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts without previous permission in writing from the local forest officer in charge. Such forest officer shall exercise a reasonable discretion in granting or refusing such permission, or in making the permission, subject to any conditions which seem reasonable for due protection of the forest reserve. Any such officer may also on reasonable grounds cancel or modify any permission previously granted to shoot in any forest reserve under his charge.

IV.—Any person dissatisfied with the order of any local forest officer passed under Rule III. may refer his objections to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, whose orders thereon shall be final.

V.—No camp shall be pitched within the limits of any forest reserve without the express concurrence of the local forest officer in charge.

VI.—All officers and others shooting in the forest reserves are required to use every possible precaution to prevent the outbreak of fire through any act or omission of themselves or their followers. In some months of the year in which the reserves are chiefly resorted to by sportsmen, the grass is so dry that the ashes of a pipe or a cigar may produce a conflagration which will destroy the work of years.

VII.—Any carelessness or breach of stipulated condition by any person shooting in any forest reserve or by his followers, whether injury to the forest results therefrom or not, shall render such person liable at discretion of the local forest officer and the Deputy Conservator of Forests to forfeiture of the privilege of shooting in the forest reserves.

VIII.—Any person trespassing or shooting in the forest reserves without authority is liable on conviction before a Magistrate to a fine not exceeding Rupees 500.

(By Order,)

A. J. DUNLOP,

Offg. Second Assistant Resident.

Forest Administration Report

OF THE

HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS,

FOR

1877—78.

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DEPUTY CONSERVATOR'S REPORT.

Annual Report, No. 843, *dated Chikalda, 5th August* 1878, *on the management and conservancy of the Berar Forests for the financial year* 1877-78, *by* A. T. DRYSDALE, ESQ., *Deputy Conservator.*

I have the honor to submit the Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for the year 1877-78, drawn up under the headings prescribed in para. 189 of the Forest Code.

SECTION I.—SUMMARY OF ADMINISTRATION DURING THE YEAR.

1.—AREA AND BOUNDARIES.

Area of reserves.

2. The area of the reserves has been increased by one square mile in consequence of slight changes that have been made in the boundaries of the Garu-Matergaon and Kinwat Reserves in the Southern Division.

At the close of the year, as will be seen from the following statement, the area of reserves amounted to 1,402 square miles, or nearly 8 per cent. of the total area of the province :—

Division.	Area in square miles.			
	On 1st April 1877.	Added during the year.	Excluded during the year.	On 31st March 1878.
Northern	853	...	...	853
Southern	548	2	1	549
Total ...	1,401	2	1	1,402

Description of trees in reserves.

3. With the exception of the Garu-Matergaon Reserve, which occupies an area of about 72 square miles, and is almost a forest of Anjan purely, (*Hardwickia binata*) the most valuable tree in the reserves is Teak. It is found mixed with trees of other kinds, the chief of which are :—Tewus, *Ougeinia Dalbergioides* ; Sheshum, *Dalbergia latifolia ;* Sadra, *Terminalia tomentosa*; Dowra, *Anogeissus latifolia*; Lendya, *Lagerstræmia parviflora* ; Jamrassee, *Elædendron Roxburghii*; Beejasal, *Pterocarpus Marsupium*; Tendu, *Diospyros Melanoxylon*; Karai, *Sterculia urens*; Mohin; *Odina Wodier*; Haldu, *Adina cordifolia*; Kaim, *Stephegyne parviflora*; Damin, *Grewia tiliaefolia ;* Rohin, *Soymida febrifuga ;* Moka, *Schrebera swietenioides*; Salai *Boswellia thurifera.*

4. The subjoined table shows the area of reserves in each district, and the proportion borne by them to the area of the district :—

Area of reserves in each district

District	Area of district.	Area of reserves.	Percentage of reserved area to area of district.
	Sq miles	Sq miles.	
Ellichpur	2,623	733	27 9
Amraoti	2,759	74	2 6
Akola	2,660	46	1 7
Buldana	2,804	115	4
Wun	3,907	270	6·9
Basim ... ' ...	2,958	164	5 5
Total ...	17,711	1,402	7 9

The proportion, it will be observed, varies from 1·7 and 2 6 in the plain districts of Akola and Amraoti, respectively, to 27·9 in the Ellichpur district, which includes the hill country of the Melghat. The Ellichpur reserves are intended to supply forest produce of all kinds not only to the inhabitants of the Ellichpur district, but also to a large proportion of those of the Amraoti and Akola districts. The reserves in the remaining districts will probably be sufficient to supply local wants, although it would be advisable to take up additional areas in them, if they can be obtained.

5. All the reserves have been permanently demarcated with the exception of Kelapur and the various district reserves.

Demarcation of reserves

The demarcation of the Kelapur Reserve has been delayed pending settlement of a difference between the Deputy Commissioner and myself, as to how the boundary should run in the neighbourhood of a few inhabited villages.

The line in the undisputed portions has already been marked out, so that the demarcation can be commenced, as soon as orders have been received regarding the small portion disputed.

The land to be finally taken up in the Amraoti hills has been selected, and the demarcation of the forest will be begun as soon as the few rights that at present exist over a portion of the area have been commuted.

The permanent demarcation of the district reserves cannot be undertaken until they have been made over to this department, as has been recommended by the Inspector General of Forests.

2.—Protection and Improvement.

Establishments.

6. The following additions have been made to the Establishment :—

Superior Establishment.

1 Assistant Conservator.

Subordinate Establishment.

1 Meteorological karkun for the Bairagarh Reserve.

3 Forest Guards, 3rd grade, for the Garu-Matergaon Reserve.

4 Forest Guards, 3rd grade, for the Ghatbori Reserve.

Prosecutions for breach of Forest Rules.

7. Subjoined is a statement of prosecutions instituted during the year :—

	Prosecutions.	Convictions.
Northern Division	195 ...	171
Southern do.	119 ...	107
Total ...	314* ...	278

Compared with last year, there has been an increase in prosecutions of 47 cases, whilst the proportion of convictions to prosecutions has risen from 82 to 88 per cent.

Commutation of rights in reserves.

8. The number of inhabited villages has been reduced by desertion from 56 to 51 in the Bairagarh Reserve, and from 19 to 18 in the Gugamal Reserve. Proposals have also been submitted for forming permanent black soil villages in these reserves, within which, it is hoped, that the greater number of the inhabitants of the present red-soil, and therefore not permanently culturable, villages may be induced to settle.

Excepting the right of grazing in a portion of the Penganga Reserve enjoyed by the villages of Marwari and Panala, no rights exist in any of the reserves in South Berar. With a view to commuting the above rights in the Penganga Reserve, I have recommended that 338 acres of land should be excluded from the reserve, and be made over to the villagers for free grazing and for the supply of forest produce of all kinds under the District Forest Rules.

Area protected from fire.

9. The undermentioned areas have been protected from fire at an average cost of about one pie per acre :—

		Acres.	Cost Rs.
Northern Division.	Bairagarh Reserve...	... 268,909 ...	906
	Gugamal do. ...	... 185,600 ...	531
Southern Division.	Garu-Matergaon Reserve	... 42,112 ...	405
	Ghatbori do.	... 9,280 ...	310
	Penganga do.	... 9,180 ...	306
	Kelapur do.	... 21,760 ...	38
	Kinwat do.	... 17,736 ...	388
	Total	... 554,577 ...	2,884

Area under plantations.

10. The area under plantations has been increased by 465 acres at an expenditure of Rs. 2,758, or about rupees six per acre. The remaining expenditure of Rs. 1,990 shown in the Plantation Statement appended to the Report is on account of weeding the plantations of former years. Of the area now added to the plantations 260 acres are in the Bairagarh Reserve, five acres in the Amraoti district, and 200 acres in the Kinwat Reserve. With the exception of the five acres in the Amraoti district in which transplants were used, the whole area was formed from seed sown in plots on the system sketched in para. 47 of my Report for 1876-77.

I have received most favourable reports both from the Bairagarh and the Kinwat Reserve regarding the success of those plantations. The seed has germinated in almost every plot, and it is hoped, therefore, that the plants may now make sufficient growth to enable them to withstand their first hot weather.

'The total area of plantations formed by this department now amounts to 2,528 acres, the expenditure on them being Rs. 37,808, or about Rs. 15 per acre.

The area of completely stocked plantations is 1,449 acres, and if these only be taken into account, and nothing be allowed for partially stocked plantations, the average expenditure would be about Rs. 25 per acre.

Construction of roads in reserves.

11. The first section of the Pili road has been completed, and work has been commenced on the second and third sections, the fourth section alone remaining untouched at present. The entire length of the road, it will be remembered, is 34½ miles, divided into sections as below :—

1st	Section	...	...	11¼ miles.
2nd	do.	...	...	5¾ do.
3rd	do.	...	...	9 do.
4th	do.	...	...	8½ do.

The Pandia Ghat leading from the highlands of the Katcoomb Perganah into the Sipna Valley has been repaired departmentally, so as to admit of wood and other forest produce being brought on to the Pili road for export to the plains of Berar. Formerly all forest produce from this perganah had to be exported *via* the Betul district.

The main road which is now being constructed from Basim to Pusad will pass through the Penganga Reserve. It will in course of time form the principle line of export for forest produce from this reserve.

Creeper cutting in Bairagarh Reserve.

12. Creepers have been cut in Block No. 1 of the Bairagarh Reserve, or over an area of about 12 square miles.

Construction of wells in Bairagarh Reserve.

13. A "*pucka*" well has been constructed at Makhla, and six wells at different places in the Bairagarh Reserve are being rebuilt.

Makhla Tank repaired

14. The "bund" of the old Makhla tank, which has been in disuse for over 50 years, has been repaired, and should this tank hereafter be found to hold water all the year round, a forest garden will be established in its vicinity. The only difficulty at present experienced in raising trees at Makhla is the great scarcity of water.

Buildings.

15. All existing buildings have been repaired, and in addition the following have been erected :—

Northern Division.—Five thanas in the Gugamal Reserve.

Southern Division.—One thana in the Penganga Reserve ;

Two thanas in the Kinwat Reserve.

3.—Yield and Working.

General remarks.

16. The State reserves are in charge of Forest Officers, and are worked under their supervision; but at present these forests may be said to be enjoying almost complete rest, little produce being extracted from them except grass and bamboos.

	Ranjaola ...	...					58	405	0	0		405	0	0	Teak.
	Kurita ...	...					42	325	0	0		325	0	0	Do
		1,958	28,136	0	0		260	3,899	0	0	1,302	32,035	0	0	
	Amraoti District														
	Bhiwapur	25	150	0	0		..				..	150	0	0	Teak.
	Cherori... ..	37	300	0	0		.	...			..	300	0	0	Do. and Babul.
	Mahdeokora ...	5	38	0	0		...	..		...	...	38	0	0	Do.
	Seoni Kurd	24	228	0	0		...	...		...	...	228	0	0	Do.
	Amraoti	200	2,569	0	0		5	436	0	0	55	3,005	0	0	Mixed.
	Barmi	100	286	0	0		...	...		...	...	286	0	0	Do.
	Morgaon	24	151	0	0		...	...		.	..	151	0	0	Babul.
	Lontek	92	254	0	0		..	...			92	254	0	0	Do
	Jawer	24	42	0	0		.	..		...		42	0	0	Do.
		531	4,018	0	0		5	436	0	0	147	4,454	0	0	
Southern Division	Experimental plantations in South Berar	39	906	0	0		...	..			..	906	0	0	Anjun teak and babul.
	Kinwat Reserve	...	...		...		200	413	0	0	...	413	0	0	Teak and bamboo.
		39	906	0	0		200	413	0	0	.	1,319	0	0	
	Total .	2,528	33,060	0	0		465	4,748	0	0	1,449	37,808	0	0	

* In column "total area on 31st March" completely stocked plantations have alone been entered.

FORM No. XLVII.

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Area of Forest tracts protected from fire during the dry season of 1877-78.

Division.	Forest tracts.	Up to 31st March 1877. Area actually protected.	Total cost.			During dry season of 1877-78. Area attempted to be protected.	Failures.	Actually protected.	Amount expended.			Total cost up to 30th June 1878.			Year when protection commenced	Remarks.
	Melghat.	Acres.	Rs.	a	p.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	a.	p	Rs.	a	p		
Northern ...	Raipur block of Bairagarh Reserve	14,231	3,884	0	0	14,231	...	14,231	626	0	0	4,510	0	0	1870.	
	Remainder of Bairagarh Reserve	258,506	526	0	0	258,518	3,840	254,678	280	0	0	806	0	6	1872.	
	Guganal Reserve ...	188,160	772	0	0	192,000	6,400	185,600	531	0	0	1,303	0	0	1877.	
		460,897	5,192	0	0	464,749	10,240	454,509	1,437	0	0	6,619	0	0		
Southern ..	Garu-Matergaon Reserve ..	43,901	751	0	0	45,992	3,880	42,112	405	0	0	1,156	0	0	1877	
	Ghatbori do. ..	23,663	371	0	0	25,280	16,000	9,280	310	0	0	681	0	0	Imperfectly protected.	
	Pengänga do ...	9,041	375	0	0	11,680	2,500	9,180	306	0	0	681	0	0	1876.	
	Kelapur do. ..	19,200	307	0	0	32,000	10,240	21,760	88	0	0	345	0	0	Imperfectly protected.	
	Kinwat do. .	53,440	441	0	0	54,236	36,500	17,736	388	0	0	829	0	0	Do.	
		149,245	2,245	0	0	169,188	69,120	100,068	1,447	0	0	3,692	0	0		
	Total ...	610,142	7,427	0	0	633,937	79,360	554,577	2,884	0	0	10,311	0	0		

Charged in previous years		7,427	0	0
Do.	1877-78	2,430	0	0
Do.	1878-79	454	0	0
		10,311	0	0

FORM No. XLVIII.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS,
Prosecutions for breaches of Forest Rules 1877-78.

Forest division and Civil district.	Injury to forests by fire.		Unauthorized felling or appropriation of wood and minor forest produce.		Grazing without permission or in tracts in which grazing is prohibited.		Other offences.		Total. Prosecutions.		Total. Convictions.		Remarks.
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	
Ellichpur ...	2	4	44	127	1	1	36	110	83	242	69	170	
Amraoti ...	...	...	24	40	1	8	...	...	25	48	21	40	
Akola ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	87	190	81	168	The Deputy
Buldana ...	1	1	22	26	...	...	1	1	24	28	22	24	Commissioner
Wun ...	2	2	48	89	13	37	2	3	65	131	62	123	has sent an
Basim ..	...	...	27	37	1	3	2	2	30	42	23	33	incomplete
Total ...	5	7	165	319	16	49	41	116	314	681	278	558	statement.

FORM No. XLIX.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Summary of Revenue of the different divisions, 1877-78.

Budget Heads Receipts.	Direction.	Northern division. Rs.	a.	p.	Southern division. Rs.	a.	p.	Total. Rs.	a.	p.
I.—TIMBER AND OTHER PRODUCE REMOVED FROM THE FORESTS BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY :—										
a. Timber	...	160	12	0	706	15	3	867	11	3
b. Firewood and charcoal ...	...	1,362	15	0	88	1	6	1,451	0	6
c. Bamboos	...	404	14	4	2	0	0	406	14	4
d. Sandal-wood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
e. Grass and other minor produce ...	...	...	...	...	887	11	9	887	11	9
II.—TIMBER AND OTHER PRODUCE REMOVED FROM THE FORESTS BY CONSUMERS OR PURCHASERS :—										
a. Timber	...	1,13,103	15	6	4,266	1	2	1,17,370	0	8
b. Firewood and charcoal... ...	...	5,651	3	4	2,177	11	1	7,828	14	5
c. Bamboos	...	19	15	8	576	6	0	596	5	8
d. Grazing and fodder grass ...	...	83,641	9	1	44,004	15	9	1,27,646	8	10
e. Other minor produce	...	5,333	15	7	11,541	9	2	16,875	8	9
III.—CONFISCATED, DRIFT AND WAIF WOOD	...	2,377	9	7	622	4	10	2,999	14	5
IV.—REVENUE FROM FORESTS NOT MANAGED BY GOVERNMENT :—										
a. Duty on foreign timber and other forest produce	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
b. Revenue from shared and private forests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
V.—MISCELLANEOUS :—										
a. Fines and forfeitures	...	54	1	11	193	2	3	247	4	2
b. Refunds	...	5	3	2	176	10	9	181	13	11
c. Other sources	...	1,525	7	8	345	10	0	1,871	1	8
Total Receipts...	...	2,13,641	10	10	65,589	3	6	2,79,230	14	4

FORM No. XLIX.— (*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Summary of expenditure of the different divisions, 1877-78.

Budget Heads. A.—Conservancy and Works.	Direction.			Northern Division.			Southern Division			Total.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
I.—TIMBER AND OTHER PRODUCE REMOVED FROM THE FORESTS BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY:—												
a. Timber	...	...	...	63	10	0	183	0	11	246	10	11
b. Firewood and charcoal	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	..
c. Bamboos	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	.	...	...	..	...
d. Sandal-wood	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
e. Grass and other minor produce ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...
II.—TIMBER AND OTHER PRODUCE REMOVED FROM THE FORESTS BY CONSUMERS OR PURCHASERS ...	...	.	..	8,093	7	3	3,161	3	5	11,254	10	8
III.—CONFISCATED, DRIFT AND WAIF WOOD	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...
IV.—REVENUE FROM FORESTS NOT MANAGED BY GOVERNMENT:—												
a Duty on foreign timber and other forest produce	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...
b. Revenue from shared and private forests	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
V.—RENT OF LEASED FORESTS AND PAYMENTS TO SHAREHOLDERS IN FORESTS MANAGED BY GOVERNMENT.	...	...	...	18,681	11	7	...	...	...	18,681	11	7
VI.—LIVE AND DEAD STOCK:—												
a Purchase of cattle	...	...	..	...	...		...	...	.	...	...	...
b Feed and keep of cattle	..	...	...	1,620	15	11	821	14	6	2,442	14	5
c. Plant, tools and instruments ...	...	...	...	3,449	8	5	21	11	9	3,471	4	2
VII.—COMMUNICATIONS & BUILDINGS:—												
a. Roads and bridges	...	...	...	32	6	0	...	...	...	32	6	0
b. Buildings	...	...	...	869	4	0	312	2	9	1,181	6	9
c. Other works	...	..	...	60	4	0	10	0	0	70	4	0
VIII.—DEMARCATION, IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION OF FORESTS:—												
a. Demarcation	...	...	...	129	9	0	900	10	6	1,030	3	6
b. Compensation for land and rights ..	...	...	...	20	0	0	800	0	0	820	0	0
c. Surveys and working plans ..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
d. Plantations	...	...	...	4,686	5	7	442	4	2	5,128	9	9
e. Protection from fire	...	...	...	1,111	7	6	1,410	12	2	2,522	3	8
f. Other works	...	...	...	291	15	6	57	8	2	349	7	8
IX.—MISCELLANEOUS:—												
a Refunds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	..	...	...	...
b. Law charges	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	.	...
c. Other charges	...	..	...	2,432	11	8	50	4	6	2,483	0	2
Total A.—Conservancy and works...	...	...	..	41,543	4	5	8,171	8	10	49,714	13	3

FORM No. XLIX.—(*Prescribed*).

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS,

Summary of expenditure of the different divisions, 1877-78.

Budget Heads. B.—Establishments.	Direction.			Northern Division.			Southern Division.			Total.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward, Total A.—Conservancy and Works	...	...	...	41,543	1	5	8,171	8	10	49,714	1	5
I.—SALARIES:—												
a. Conservators	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
b. Superior Officers	...	...	...	12,600	0	0	4,661	4	8	17,261	4	8
c. Subordinate Forest and Depôt Establishments	...	...	...	13,502	0	2	10,669	3	1	24,171	3	3
d. Office Establishments	...	...	...	4,995	15	11	1,278	12	11	6,274	12	10
e Deputation and Special Allowances...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
II.—TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES;—												
a. Conservators	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
b. Superior Officers	...	...	...	4,246	6	0	1,897	0	0	6,143	6	0
c. Subordinate Forest and Depôt Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
d. Office Establishments	...	...	...	750	3	9	481	14	5	1,232	2	2
III.—CONTINGENCIES:—												
a Stationery	...	...	...	795	13	5	218	15	0	1,014	12	5
b. Carriage of tents and records ...	...	...	...	1,170	7	9	549	15	4	1,720	7	1
c. Pay of Police Guards	...	...	...	453	3	1	...	...	...	453	3	1
d. Sundries	...	...	...	1,403	15	2	100	0	6	1,503	15	8
e. Official Postage	...	...	...	399	4	6	78	13	6	478	2	0
TOTAL, B. ESTABLISHMENTS...	...	...	...	40,317	5	9	19,936	1	5	60,253	7	2
GRAND TOTAL OF EXPENDITURE.	...	...	...	81,860	10	2	28,107	10	3	1,09,968	4	5

FORM No. L.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Dr. **Account Current for the year 1877-78.** *Cr.*

Year.	Heads of Account.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.	Total. Rs.	a.	p	Year.	Heads of Account.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p	Total. Rs.	a.	p.
1877-78.	To Cash, in hand on 1st April 1877—							1877-78.	By Expenditure of the Department—						
	Northern Division	2,875	5	9					Northern Division	81,860	10	2			
	Southern Division	..	...	...					Southern Division	28,107	10	3			
					2,875	5	9						1,09,968	4	5
	„ Revenue received—								„ Remittances to State Treasuries—						
	Northern Division	2,13,641	10	10					Northern Division	2,13,641	10	10			
	Southern Division	65,589	3	6					Southern Division	65,589	3	6			
					2,79,230	14	4						2,79,230	14	4
	„ Remittances from State Treasuries—								„ Amounts transferred—						
	Northern Division	82,764	4	2					Northern Division	653	0	10			
	Southern Division	29,631	13	5					Southern Division	653	0	10			
					1,12,396	1	7						1,306	1	8
	„ Advances recovered—								„ Advances made—						
	Northern Division	9,246	11	2					Northern Division	9,300	0	0			
	Southern Division	3,208	13	8					Southern Division	4,080	0	0			
					12,455	8	10						13,380	0	0
	„ Amount transferred from Southern Division to Northern Division	653	0	10					„ Refunds of Revenue—						
					653	0	10		Northern Division	...	...	...			
									Southern Division	...	...	...	...	...	...
	„ Supplies between Berar and Imperial Governments—Government of India, "Transfers" (Adjustment on account of Europe medicines) Northern Division ...	411	3	0					„ Cheques cancelled—						
									Northern Division	845	4	11			
									Southern Division	...	...	...			
													845	4	11
					411	3	0		„ Cash balance in hand on 31st March 1878—						
	Transfers on account of Instruments ...	407	3	4					Northern Division	3,698	12	4			
					407	3	4		Southern Division	...	...	...			
													3,698	12	4
	Northern Division... 3,09,999- 7-1... / Southern Division . 98,429-14-7 .. } Total ...				4,08,429	5	8		Northern Division .. 3,09,999- 7-1 . / Southern Division .. 98,429-14-7 .. } Total ...				4,08,429	5	8

FORM No. LI.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Statement of outstandings and liabilities on account of the year 1877-78.

Division.	Department debtor.									Department creditor.									Balance due.						Remarks.
	At commencement of year.				Recoveries in cash and value of supplies and work done during the year.			At close of year.			At commencement.			Payments made during year.			At close of year.			To department (outstandings.)			By department (liabilities.)			
Northern.	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
Forest officers	...	...	...		7,824	1	10	7,824	1	10	1,299	5	7	8,000	0	0	9,299	5	7	1,475	3	9	...	...	...	
Civil officers	...	...	...		1,422	9	4	1,422	9	4	687	8	9	1,300	0	0	1,987	8	9	564	15	5	...	...	...	
Southern.																										
Forest officers	...	...	...		2,238	14	2	2,238	14	2	456	3	0	2,330	0	0	2,786	3	0	547	4	10	...	...	...	
Civil officers	...	...	...		969	15	6	969	15	6	677	13	8	1,750	0	0	2,427	13	8	1,457	14	2	...	...	...	
Total...	...	...	...		12,455	8	10	12,455	8	10	3,120	15	0	13,380	0	0	16,500	15	0	4,045	6	2	...	...	...	

FORM No. LII.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Statement of outstandings on account of revenue, 1877-78.

Division.	Particulars.	Outstandings at commencement of year.			Value of sales and other revenue during year.			Total.			Amount realized during year.			Balance due to the department at end of year.			Remarks.
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
Northern	... ...	86	15	0	2,083	7	4	2,170	6	4	1,928	9	4	241	13	0	
Southern	... ...	187	0	0	797	0	9	984	0	9	797	0	9	187	0	0	
Total...		273	15	0	2,880	8	1	3,154	7	1	2,725	10	1	428	13	0	

FORM No. LV.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Statement of timber and other produce brought to Depot from the different Forest Divisions, 1877-78.

Division.	Forest.	Description of timber, &c.	No. of		Total of each division		Remarks.
			Pieces.	Cubic feet	Pieces.	Cubic feet.	
Northern	Bairagarh Reserve... ...	Teak	874	...	874	..	
		Bamboos	133,549	...	133,549	...	
		Total ...	134,423	...	134,423		

FORM No. LVI.—(*Prescribed.*)

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Account of timber and other produce, 1877-78.

Particulars.	Pieces.		Totai.		Particulars.	Pieces.		Total.	
	No.	Cubic feet.	No.	Cub. ft.		No	Cubic feet.	No.	Cub. ft.
Northern Division.									
Teak—									
Balance ...	...	Wood too small to calculate the cubical contents of.	...	...	Removed ...	874	Wood too small to calculate the cubical contents of.	874	...
Received during the year ..	874		874	...	Balance ...	...		...	...
Total ...	874		874	...	Total ...	874		874	..
Bamboos—									
Balance ...	...		...	...	Removed ...	133,549		133,549	..
Received during the year ...	133,549		133,549	...	Balance ...	..		...	..
Total ...	1,33,549		133,549	...	Total ...	133,549		133,549	...

The balance of timber shown against the District Reserves in Form No. 25, attached to the Report for 1876-77, is not brought to account here, as it is not really depôt wood.

FORM No. LVII.

FOREST DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS.

Statement showing the amount realized on account of the different classes of timber and other produce sold during 1877-78.

Division.	Description of timber, &c.	Number of pieces, &c., sold.	Cubic contents.	Amount realized and due on account of sales.			Average amount per log, &c.			Average cubical contents of logs.	Average amount per cubic foot.			Remarks.
				Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.		Rs.	a.	p.	
Northern ...	Teak	874	Wood too small to calculate the cubic contents of.	315	10	0	0	5	9	...	...	..	...	
	Bamboos	133,549		1,335	7	10	1	0	0	...	...	...	...	Per hundred.
	Total ...	134,423		1,651	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Deduct—Amouut due, but not realized during the year ...			241	13	0								
	Balance ...			1,409	4	10								
	Add—Amount realized on account of former years ...			86	15	0								
	Total shown as revenue on account of sales under Budget Head...			1,496	3	10								